

## INTRODUCTION

### **Student:**

Welcome to your Key Stage 4 Options Booklet 2018. You are about to begin the three most important years study of your life; the choices on this pathway are structured to provide a balanced curriculum that leads to post 16 higher level qualifications and University.

In order to identify the most appropriate subjects for students, all Year 8 student attainment and expected progress data has been analysed and aligned to your AP data so that we place you in the most appropriate subjects and, can best advise you about your future studies.

We have modified our Academy curriculum for the coming year to offer a wide range of subjects. You will now have a choice of 4 options.

*\*Please ensure that you are happy with both your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. You will be awarded your 2<sup>nd</sup> choice in the event of your 1<sup>st</sup> choice being oversubscribed.*

### **Parent/Carer:**

This booklet is designed to help you understand the Options process. You should read this booklet carefully with your child, who will also have had a chance to discuss subject choices with her/his teachers, and Mrs Sherman, so you can come to a careful and considered decision. During the Year 8 Consultation evening at the Upper Academy, you will be able to complete a form to indicate your child's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices.

### IMPORTANT

1. Please read this booklet carefully before attending your consultation evening appointment.
2. Please look at the options available on your targeted pathway.
3. If you want further information please contact Mrs Sherman via reception at the Upper Academy

## MAINSTREAM PATHWAY

Students will study:

- **CORE GCSE SUBJECTS** (Compulsory – you have to study them): English Language and Literature, Maths, Combined Science and Sports Leadership
- All students will study **4 Optional Subjects** from the blocking below; students must select a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice from each block.

*\*Please ensure that you are happy with both your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. You will be awarded your 2<sup>nd</sup> choice in the event of your 1<sup>st</sup> choice being oversubscribed.*

BLOCK A	BLOCK C	BLOCK D	BLOCK E
History	Engineering	Engineering	Engineering
Geography	Hair & Beauty	Art & Design	Product Design
French	Catering	Photography	Art & Design
	Childcare	Business Studies	Drama
	Business Studies	Childcare	Business Studies
			Sports Studies
			Computer Science

# CORE Subject Information

**Course/Examination Board:**

English Language GCSE – AQA - 8700

**Subject contact:**

Miss C Lillis

**What will I study?**

The new English GCSEs allow students many opportunities to develop their skills in reading, understanding and analysing a wide range of different texts and in writing clearly.

**Skills:**

Students will study a wide range of 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century texts including literature and literary non-fiction as well as other forms such as reviews and journalism.

Students will develop their skills in reading and evaluating texts critically to make connections and comparisons. They will build their skills of summarising and synthesising ideas and information.

This will also develop writing skills – students will have the opportunity to write for different purposes and audiences and will develop their understanding of how to structure their work for effect. Students will develop their understanding of how to use word choices, punctuation and rhetorical devices to create impact in their work.

**Examinations:**

This is a linear course with two examinations at the end of the course. Students will continue their English Language studies throughout their time and take the GCSE examination for this subject in Year 11. Students will have secured their English Literature GCSE in Year 10.

**Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing****Section A – Reading - Unseen Literature Fiction Text**

Students answer a series of short form, longer form and extended questions.

**Section B – Writing – Descriptive or Narrative Writing****Paper 2 – Writers Viewpoints and Perspectives****Section A – Reading – Unseen Non Fiction Text and Literary Non Fiction Text**

Students answer a series of short form, longer form and extended questions to demonstrate their understanding of how different writers present a similar topic over time.

**Section B – Writing – Writing to present a viewpoint**

Each exam lasts 1 hr 45 mins and is worth 50% of the final GCSE Grade

**Speaking and Listening**

This non exam unit is compulsory to complete the GCSE and a separate mark will be given based on students' contributions through presentations and opportunities to respond and feedback.

**Career possibilities:**

English is an important subject. Colleges, employers and universities all require students to have a qualification in English at GCSE level. A good understanding of English will help with the understanding of all subjects. There are possibilities to study English in the Sixth Form. A higher grade result at GCSE level will be necessary for entry for AS and A2 courses in the Academies Sixth Form and most other sixth forms and colleges.

**Useful Websites:**

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

**Course/Examination Board:**

English Literature GCSE – AQA

**Subject contact:**

Miss C Lillis

**What will I study?**

This course offers students an opportunity to develop an appreciation of the English Literary Heritage by reading a wide range of classic literature and make critical connections between these.

**Skills:**

Literature allows students to explore aspects of plot, characterisation, events and setting to see how these are crafted to create impact. Students will develop their confidence in explaining the motivation, sequencing of events and relationship between actions and events.

Students will be able to identify the themes and how these are created through the writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features as well as form an appreciation of the social, historical and cultural contexts of the writers.

**Examinations:**

This is a linear course with two examinations at the end of the course. Students will be taking this examination at the end of their Year 10 to secure this first GCSE qualification.

Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel – 1 hr 45 mins = 40% of GCSE

Students will be given an extract from each text which they must write about as well as show knowledge of the full text.

Shakespeare Text – 'Macbeth'

19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel – 'The Sign of Four' – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Paper 2 – Modern Texts and Poetry – 2 hr 15 mins = 60% of GCSE

Modern Text – 'An Inspector Calls' – J.B. Priestley

Poetry – Anthology of 15 poems entitled 'Love and Relationships'

Unseen Poetry – students answer one question on an unseen poem and a comparative question on a second unseen poem.

**Career possibilities:**

English Literature is an important subject. Colleges, employers and universities all require students to have a qualification in English Language or Literature at GCSE level. A good understanding of English Literature will help with the understanding of all subjects. There are possibilities to study English in the Sixth Form. A higher grade result at GCSE level will be necessary for entry for AS and A2 courses in the Academies Sixth Form and most other sixth forms and colleges.

**Useful Websites:**

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

**Course/Examination Board:**

Mathematics

Pearson Edexcel: GCSE (9 - 1) in Mathematics (1 MA1)

**Subject contact:**

Mrs S Sharman

**Qualification overview:**

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

- 1 Number
- 2 Algebra
- 3 Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- 4 Geometry and measures
- 5 Probability
- 6 Statistics

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher. Each student is permitted to take assessments in either the Foundation tier or Higher tier but all papers must be sat at the same tier of entry. The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers. Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3.

Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and is worth 80 marks. Each paper has a range of question types; some questions will be set in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts. Assessment will take place in June of Year 11.

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade:

- Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5.
- Higher tier: grades 4 to 9.

**Career possibilities:**

Mathematical competence is important in most areas of study at higher level but particularly in science, engineering, technology and finance. A higher GCSE grade qualification in Mathematics is essential for AS and A2 courses in either pure or applied mathematics, and is also an advantage to students seeking later suitable employment, training or apprenticeships.

**Course/Examination Board:**

Sports Leaders UK - Level 2 Sports Leadership qualification

**Subject contact:**

Mrs L Gray/Mrs K Bennett

**What will I study?****1. Leadership skills for a sports leader**

This looks at the skills, qualities and values that a sports leader will need.

**2. Adapting sport/activity sessions to be inclusive**

Learn the principles of leading inclusive activities, adapting sessions to suit the needs of all participants.

**3. Safeguarding sport/activity participants**

Looking at safeguarding participants in sessions.

**4. Plan, Lead and Evaluate sport/activity sessions**

An overview of the factors to consider when planning and leading any session. Learners will complete 10 hours demonstration of leadership.

**5. Assist in organising and leading a sports event**

Learn about the organisation and delivery of sporting events.

**6. The benefits of physical activity to a healthy lifestyle**

Through practical application you will learn to understand the physical activity guidelines expected for children and adults.

**7. Pathways in sport and recreation**

Learn how sport and recreation is organised; both on a local and regional scale. Also looking at career pathways.

**How will I be assessed?**

You will be internally assessed throughout using:

Observation

Planning

Video evidence

**Useful Websites:**

[www.sportsleaders.org](http://www.sportsleaders.org)

# COMBINED SCIENCE

## Course/Examination Board:

AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

## Subject contact:

Mr M. Frempong

## What will I study?

This course is designed to inspire and challenge students of all abilities and aspirations.

Students will achieve 2 GCSE's (Grade 1-9)

The subject content is split into Biology, Chemistry and Physics sections

### Biology

- Cells and organisation
- Disease and bioenergetics
- Biological response
- Genetics and reproduction
- Ecology

### Chemistry

- Atoms, bonding and moles
- Chemical reactions and energy changes
- Rates equilibrium and organic chemistry
- Analysis and Earth's resources

### Physics

- Energy and energy resources
- Particles at work
- Forces in action
- Waves and electromagnetism

## The Combined Science Qualification:

### How will it be assessed?

6 externally assessed exams each

- 70 marks
- 1h 15min
- 1/6 of qualification
- Foundation or Higher Tier

## Career possibilities:

There really are no limits to the type of job studying science could lead to. You could get a well-paid and respected job in thousands of professions:

- Interested in people and how the mind works? You could become a clinical psychologist.
- Do you live for football? Then sports science could be the job for you.
- Like the idea of designing and building structures? Perhaps you are an engineer?
- If you want to be involved in combating diseases and treating people who are ill, how about a career in medicine?
- Dentistry is a great choice if you want to put a smile on people's faces.
- Love music, but don't fancy appearing on Pop Stars? Music technology is a very popular choice.
- Are you obsessed by animals? Animal health is a great career choice for anyone who wants to improve their lives.

You may be surprised to hear this, but the skills you gain from studying science will open up opportunities in areas that are not obviously science related. For example:

- Finance
- Teaching
- Marketing
- Patent law
- Photography
- Art restoration
- Media and film production
- Food technology

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Course/ Examination Board:

AQA GCSE Computer Science

## Subject contact:

Mrs K Bennett

## What will I study?

The course has an emphasis on transferable skills to ensure students are fully prepared for higher education and employment.

Students will achieve 1 GCSE (Grade 1-9)

The subject content is split into the following topic areas

## Computer Science:

1. Fundamentals of algorithms
2. Programming
3. Fundamentals of data representation
4. Computer systems
5. Fundamentals of computer networks
6. Fundamentals of cyber security
7. Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of digital technology on wider society, including issues of privacy
8. Aspects of software development
9. Non-exam assessment

## The Computer Science Qualification:

### How will it be assessed?

2 externally assessed examinations each 1h 30min, 80 marks and 40% of qualification plus a report detailing 20 hours of non-exam assessment, 80 marks and 20% of qualification

Paper 1	Paper 2	Non Exam Assessment
Computational thinking, problem solving, code tracing and applied computing as well as theoretical knowledge of computer science from Topics 1–4	Theoretical knowledge from Topics 3-7	The non-exam assessment (NEA) assesses a student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve a practical programming problem. Students will be expected to follow a systematic approach to problem solving, consistent with the skills described in topic 8.
A mix of multiple choice, short-answer and longer-answer questions assessing a student's practical problem solving and computational thinking skills.	A mix of multiple choice, short-answer, longer-answer and extended response questions assessing a student's theoretical knowledge.	The development of a computer program along with the computer programming code itself which has been designed, written and tested by a student to solve a problem. Students will produce an original report outlining this development.

## Career possibilities:

Computing is of enormous importance to the economy, and the role of Computer Science as a discipline itself and as an 'underpinning' subject across Science and Engineering is growing rapidly. Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile devices and web-related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challenges for employers and employees.

Jobs directly related to computer science qualifications:

- Database administrator
- Games developer
- Information systems manager
- IT consultant
- Multimedia programmer
- Network engineer
- Systems analyst
- Systems developer

The skills you gain from studying computer science will open up opportunities in areas that are not so obviously computer science related. For example:

- Geographical information systems officer
- IT sales professional
- IT trainer
- Secondary school teacher
- Technical author

# GEOGRAPHY

**Course/Examination Board:**

GCSE Geography (B) Edexcel

**Subject contact:**

Ms K Mallinder

**What will I study?**

The course consists of 3 components aimed to give you knowledge and understanding of the world around you. You will learn about the changing landscapes of the UK, weather hazards, climate changes and ecosystems, biodiversity and management. You will study the human environment learning about changing cities, global development and resource management. Finally, you will carry out geographical investigations into physical and human environments.

**How will I be assessed?**

The course is assessed over 3 units;

**Unit 1:** Component 1- This is a 1 hr 30 minute paper worth 37.5 % of your final grade. This paper tests your knowledge of Global Geographical issues such as natural hazards.

**Unit 2:** Component 2- This is a 1 hr 30 minute paper worth 37.5 % of your final grade. This paper tests your knowledge of the UK's physical landscape, human landscape and includes Geographical Investigations and Fieldwork.

**Unit 3:** Component 3- This is a 1 hr 30 minute paper worth 25 % of your final grade. This paper involves people and environment issues e.g. forests under threat.

**Career possibilities:**

- University degree courses
- Sixth form courses
- Employment in local government
- Planning and construction
- Travel and leisure industries
- Teaching
- Journalism.
- The Armed Services encourage the use of mapping and other geographical skills.

**Useful Websites:**

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-a-2016.html>

<http://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/geography>

[www.coolgeography.co.uk](http://www.coolgeography.co.uk)

# HISTORY

**Course/Examination Board:**

GCSE History/Edexcel

**Subject Contact:**

Ms K Mallinder

**What will I study?**

The course consists of 4 units aimed to give you a knowledge and understanding of a diverse range of History topics as well as developing your skills of analysis and enquiry. You will learn about Medicine in Britain and the British Sector of the Western front, Weimer and Nazi Germany and Anglo Saxon and Norman England and The American West. You will also develop your source analysis skills and gain an awareness of how the past has been represented and interpreted.

**How will I be assessed?**

The course is externally assessed over 3 papers at the end of year 11. The papers are divided as follows:

**Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment**, 30% of the final GCSE grade, 1 hr. 15 minute exam on Medicine in Britain and the British Sector of the Western front

**Paper 2: Period study and British depth study**, 40% of the final GCSE grade, 1 hr. 45 minute exam on Anglo Saxon and Norman England and The American West

**Paper 3: Modern depth study**, 30% of the final GCSE grade, 1 hr. 20 minute exam on the USA: Civil Rights and The Vietnam War

**Career possibilities:**

- Teaching
- Administration/ management
- Journalism
- Law
- Museum curator

**Useful Websites:**

[www.schoolhistory.co.uk](http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk)

[www.schoolshistory.org.uk](http://www.schoolshistory.org.uk)

[www.historyonthenet.com](http://www.historyonthenet.com)

[www.activehistory.co.uk](http://www.activehistory.co.uk)

[www.qualifications.pearson.com](http://www.qualifications.pearson.com)

# FRENCH

**Course/Examination Board:**

GCSE French/AQA

**Subject Contact:**

Ms K Mallinder

**What will I study?**

The course consists of 4 units aimed to give you a knowledge and understanding of French as a modern foreign language through the skills used in listening, reading, writing and speaking.

You will cover three different themes across the 4 areas:

Theme 1- *Identity and culture* which covers - Me, my family and friends, technology in everyday life, free time activities and customs and festivals in French- speaking countries/communities.

Theme 2- *Local, national, international and global areas of interest* which covers - Home, town, neighbourhood and region, social issues, global issues and travel and tourism

Theme 3- *Current and future study and employment* which covers - My studies, life at school and college, education post-16 and jobs, career choices and ambitions

**How will I be assessed?**

The course is assessed over 4 units; each unit is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade and is externally examined at the end of year 11.

**Unit 1:** Listening

**Unit 2:** Speaking

**Unit 3:** Reading

**Unit 4:** Writing

**Career possibilities:**

- Teaching
- Translation
- International relations
- Travel and Tourism

**Useful Websites:**

[www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/french/>

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)

[www.conjugation-fr.com/](http://www.conjugation-fr.com/)

[www.collinsdictionary.com](http://www.collinsdictionary.com)

# ART & DESIGN

## Course/Examination Board:

OCR GCSE Art and Design

## Subject contact:

Miss K Archer

## What will I study?

If you enjoy being creative, enthusiastic and imaginative, as well as experimenting and taking risks with your work then GCSE Art and Design is the ideal subject for you.

The GCSE covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments. You will have the opportunity to experiment with different media in order to explore your strengths and preferences.

You will develop your skills in a variety of areas including

- Observational drawing
- Printmaking
- Collage and mixed media
- Painting
- Ceramics
- Written analysis of your own and other's work

Whatever you choose, the main aim of the course is to develop your visual language skills and for you to build a comprehensive portfolio of work to progress to further courses or employment.

## How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 60% <b>Personal Portfolio in Art and Design</b>	Unit 2 40% <b>Externally Set task in Art and Design</b>
Internally set and marked; assessed through controlled assessment.	Externally set theme and internally marked.
You will be assessed using 4 assessment objectives	

## Career possibilities:

The course is good preparation for progression to AS level Art and design, Level 3 BTEC Nationals in Art and Design or other suitable college courses. Following this it would be possible to study Art and Design at degree level or gain employment in a wide variety of professions including fine art, new media, games development, games technologies and more.

## Useful Websites:

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/>

# BUSINESS STUDIES

**Course/Examination Board:**

Edexcel L1/L2 BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise

**Subject contact:**

Mr H Williams

**What will I study?**

- The features and characteristics of business enterprises
- The key skills of setting up and running business enterprises
- The promotional methods, financial records, planning and forecasting used for business enterprise

**How will I be assessed?**

The Edexcel BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Enterprise is a 120-guided learning hour (GLH) qualification that consists of three mandatory components. One of the components will be externally assessed through an exam. The other two components will require students to produce a portfolio of work to evidence that they have met the criteria.

**Course comprises:**

**Component 1:** Exploring Enterprises (30% weighting)

**Component 2:** Planning for and running an enterprise (30% weighting)

**Component 3:** Promotion and Finance for enterprise (40% weighting)

**Career possibilities:**

Entrepreneur

Administration / management

Marketing

Sales

Teaching

Finance

Human Resources

**Useful Websites:**

[www.edexcel.org.uk/btec](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/btec)

# CATERING

## **Course/Examination Board:**

BTEC First in Hospitality

## **Subject contact:**

Ms K Bowman

## **What will I study?**

What does it take to be a successful catering manager, concierge, chef or assistant conference manager? As the UK's fifth largest employer, the hospitality industry offers exciting opportunities in the UK and around the world, and requires a range of skills such as time management, team working, numeracy, IT and communication.

BTEC Firsts in Hospitality provide a practical, real-world approach to learning and develop specific knowledge and skills learners need to work successfully in the hospitality industry, such as:

- Understanding industry trends and the impact on wider economic, environmental, social and ethical issues
- Using non-verbal and verbal communication skills in a wide range of situations, for example, dealing with customers in order to deliver outstanding service
- Exploring the importance of team working to work successfully in different job roles
- Developing good project management skills by planning and running an event.

Learners will also be able to present their work in a variety of ways, including:

- Producing training manuals, leaflets or posters
- Taking part in role-plays and discussions
- Face-to-face or audio-visual presentations
- Online, such as websites.

## **How will I be assessed?**

### **Unit 1 Introducing the Hospitality Industry (Exam 25%)**

This unit covers different aspects of the hospitality industry, looking at its components parts and the different products and services that are offered as well as the essential processes involved in operating a hospitality business.

### **Unit 2 Working in the Hospitality Industry (Coursework 25%)**

This unit covers the importance of team working and customer service for working in a variety of roles within the hospitality industry, and looks at other important aspects such as personal appearance and personal attributes necessary to work successfully.

### **Unit 3 Food Safety and Health and Safety in Hospitality (Coursework 25%)**

You will discover the various aspects of health and safety, and food safety law in relation to those working in the hospitality industry.

### **Unit 6 Planning, Preparing, Cooking and Finishing Food (Coursework 25%)**

This unit allows you to explore the understanding and skills required for proficiency in planning, preparing, cooking and finishing a range of food types in the hospitality industry.

## **Career possibilities:**

- Bar person / manager
- Concierge
- Chef
- Conferencing and banqueting assistant / manager
- Receptionist
- Waiter / waitress

## **Useful Websites:**

[www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

# CHILDCARE

**Course/Examination Board:**

Edexcel BTEC Level 2 First Certificate in Childcare, Learning & Development

**Subject contact:**

Mrs L Gray

**What will I study?****1. Understanding Children's Development**

This unit aims to develop your knowledge and understanding of child development. You will learn about five different areas of development – physical, cognitive, communication and language, emotional and social – and how these areas are linked.

**2. Keeping Children Safe**

In this unit you will look at how early years settings use play to promote children's learning and development at different ages and stages, including babies, and the types of play opportunities that early years settings usually provide. You will find that play can be structured in broadly three ways: adult-led, adult-initiated and child initiated play. Each way has its benefits, but also potential disadvantages, and early years settings use a combination of these structures to support children's play.

**3. Communication with children and adults**

In this unit you will look at some of the key principles that are reflected in best practice in early years. You will learn about inclusive practice as a way of valuing children and ensuring that they can benefit from the opportunities within the setting.

You will also explore how children are empowered to ensure that children learn to become independent and develop a strong self-image, as well as ways in which this is put into practice.

**How will I be assessed?**

Unit 1: 1 ½ hour external examination - to be completed during Year 10

Unit 2: Internally assessed coursework

Unit 3: Internally assessed coursework

**Useful Websites:**

[www.edexcel.org.uk/btec](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/btec)

# DRAMA

## Exam Board:

Edexcel

## Subject contact:

Ms G Stoddard

## What will I study?

The scripts and topics studied become more challenging as well as the breadth of skills that are taught. GCSE Drama encourages students to work imaginatively and creatively in a collaborative context, creating, developing and communicating ideas.

This course is made up of three components: Devising, Performing and Analysing.

The practical focus will require students to articulate how they would perform in certain roles, putting practical work at the heart of the qualification. You will have the opportunity to create your own work as well as look at plays written by other people.

## How will I be assessed?

GCSE Drama consists of two coursework components and one externally examined paper.

### Component 1: Devising = 40% of the qualification (60 marks)

There are two parts to the assessment:

- 1) A performance devised by the students
- 2) A portfolio covering the creation and development process leading up to the performance as well as the analysis and evaluation after the performance.

### Component 2: Performance from Text = 20% of the qualification (48 marks)

Perform two rehearsed extracts from a play, assessed by a visiting examiner

### Component 3: Theatre makers in practice = 40% of the qualification (60 marks)

#### Practical exploration and study of a complete play including a theatre trip to watch the play

Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes consisting of two sections:

Section A: Question based on the practical exploration of the play studied in class

Section B: Analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance they have seen

## Further/Higher Education:

AS or A level in Drama and Theatre Studies, or a BTEC National Certificate or Diploma in Performing Arts  
University/Drama school for BA Degree courses in Acting, Film, Production, Theatre, Recorded Media/TV

## Career possibilities:

Drama and the Performing Arts contributes £5.4 billion a year to the UK economy. Careers working for Theatre, TV and Film directly as a performer or behind the scenes have hundreds of different job choices. Examples:

Actor	Front of House	Puppeteer	Stunt Performer
Box Office	Manager	Radio Presenter	Talent Development
Chief Executive Officer	Fundraiser	Scenic Artist	Manager
of a company	Lighting Technician	Set Designer	Teacher - Secondary
Children's Entertainer	Marketing	Singer	School Drama
Community Arts	Musical Theatre Artist	Sound Technician	Tour Manager
Company Director	Production Team	Stage Door Supervisor	TV Producer
Dancer	Prop Maker	Stage Manager	Usher
Event Manager	Project Curator	Stage Hand	Wardrobe Assistant

# ENGINEERING

**Course/Examination Board:**

Edexcel First Award in Engineering

**Subject contact:**

Ms K Bowman/ Mr M Fogarty

**What will I study?**

What is 'engineering'? Is it using materials and processes to manufacture a single item? Is it applying new technologies to the mass production of well-known products? Or is it implementing methods to reduce waste and improve the sustainability of energy sources? Engineering is all of these things and many more. It affects all aspects of our lives, from the daily use of time-saving appliances to performance materials applied in ways we may never have imagined.

In this course, you will discover the world of engineering. You will investigate the processes used to manufacture modern products within different engineering sectors. You will also study some of the new developments in materials and engineering technology that have an impact on life today – or will have in the very near future. Engineers must be aware that products and processes may require the use of scarce resources that could have an impact on the environment.

When an engineered product is made, used and disposed of, any waste of energy and environmental damage must be minimised at all stages. Therefore, you will also investigate waste reduction and sustainability issues from an engineering perspective, discovering how engineers can help control and reduce environmental damage.

**Unit 1: The Engineered World (Exam 25%)**

- Know about engineering processes used to produce modern engineered products
- Know about developments in engineering materials and technologies
- Understand how engineering contributes to a sustainable future

**Unit 2: Investigating an Engineering Product (Coursework 25%)**

- Understand the performance requirements of an engineered product
- Understand the selection of specific materials for use in the components that make up an engineered product
- Understand the selection and use of manufacturing processes in an engineered product
- Understand the quality issues related to an engineered product

**Unit 3: Health and Safety in Engineering (Coursework 25%)**

- Understand safe and effective working in an engineering workplace
- Know how to follow procedures and undertake a work activity safely

**Unit 6: Computer-aided Engineering (Coursework 25%)**

- Use a CAD system to produce engineering drawings
- Use a CAM system to manufacture an engineering component.

There are a range of practical tasks you will produce, these include:

- Screwdriver
- Alarm circuit
- MP3 speaker
- Clock
- 3D printed components

**Career possibilities:**

- Chemical engineering
- Marine engineering
- Structural engineer
- Transport engineer
- Sound engineer
- Aeronautical engineering
- Food engineering
- Textiles engineering

**Useful Websites:**      [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

# HAIR & BEAUTY

**Course/Examination Board:**

VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy (VRQ)

**Subject contact:**

Ms Z Ali

**Aims of Course:**

- Develop a broad and comprehensive understanding of the hair and beauty sector
- Develop knowledge which spans the entire vocational sector
- Develop academic study and transferable skills that will support progression within the hair and beauty sector and more broadly.

The aim of this qualification is to use the hair and beauty sector as a vehicle to develop learners more broadly, so they are prepared and equipped with the knowledge, understanding and skills to pursue a career in this field.

**How will I be assessed?**

There are four units to be completed within the course. One is an externally assessed exam and the other three units are coursework based that are internally marked and externally moderated. All four units must be completed and passed in order to achieve a grade in this subject.

There are no practical elements to this course.

**Units covered are:**

- Understanding the hair and beauty sector (mandatory exam)
- Hair and beauty research project (mandatory coursework)
- Hair and Beauty Science (coursework)
- Responding to a hair and beauty design brief (coursework)

**Potential career pathways are:**

- Beauty therapist
- Spa Therapist
- Nail Technician
- Makeup Artist
- Salon/ Spa Management

# PHOTOGRAPHY

## Course/Examination Board:

WJEC GCSE: Art & Design - Photography

## Subject contact:

Miss K Archer

## What will I study?

This GCSE is designed to develop your artistic and photography skills and expand your creativity, imagination and independence.

This course will enable learners to explore the techniques and applications of photography. As an introduction to the course, pupils will begin by getting to know the camera. Learners will explore both film-based photographic methods and the processes involved in digital photography. Learners will then develop ideas based on a specific theme, creating a range of photographic images for their portfolios, followed by an externally set assignment.

Areas likely to be covered are as follows:

- 1) Photographic Techniques and Applications
- 2) Working with Photography Briefs
- 3) Studio Photography
- 4) Experimental Manipulation and Photoshop
- 5) Creative Camera Techniques
- 6) Location Photography

## How will I be assessed?

Unit 1 <b>Personal Portfolio 'Order and Disorder'</b>	Unit 2 <b>Externally Set task</b>
Internally set and marked; assessed through controlled assessment.	Externally set theme; assessed through controlled assessment, internally marked and externally verified.
Each unit is assessed separately out of 100 marks. You will be assessed using 4 assessment objectives of develop, refine, record, present.	

Facilities available

2 high tech studios

Large dark room and development room

Photographic digital suite

SLR cameras

## Career possibilities:

The course is good preparation for progression to further education and Level 3 BTEC Nationals in Photography or suitable college/ vocational courses. Following this it would be possible to study photography at degree level or gain employment in fine art, new media, games development or games technologies, as well as digital photography, video and more.

## Useful Websites:

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/>

# PRODUCT DESIGN (DT)

## Exam Board:

Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology

## Subject contact:

Ms K Bowman

## What will I study?

The GCSE in Design and Technology enables students to understand and apply iterative design processes through which they explore, create and evaluate a range of outcomes. The qualification enables students to use creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes (together with evidence of modelling to develop and prove product concept and function) that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. It gives students opportunities to apply knowledge from other disciplines, including mathematics, science, art and design, computing and the humanities.

**Maths skills are fundamental to design and technology. These skills will be embedded in the examination for this qualification.**

## How will I be assessed?

	Unit	How will you be assessed	% of final grade
Year 10	Skills Demonstration	You will carry out a number of bite-sized projects to demonstrate competence in core skills.	
Year 11	Component 1 Exam	There are two sections to the paper: Section A – Core content and Section B – Timbers. The paper will include open-response, graphical, calculations and extended-open-response questions. The paper will include questions that target mathematics.	Exam 50%
	Component 2 Portfolio (coursework)	Pearson will communicate a contextual challenge to centres in June of the calendar year preceding the year in which the qualification is to be awarded. Students will be expected to undertake a small-scale project in response to this realistic contextual challenge, taking into account the needs and wants of the user. Main assessment areas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● investigate</li><li>● design</li><li>● make</li><li>● evaluate.</li></ul>	Coursework 50%

## Career possibilities:

- Architect
- Interior Designer
- Jewellery Designer
- Carpenter
- Product Designer
- Furniture Designer
- Building Surveyor Construction
- Set Designer

## Useful Websites:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/design-and-technology-2017.html>

# SPORT STUDIES

**Course:**

OCR Cambridge Nationals Level 2 in Sport Studies

**Subject contact:**

Mrs L Gray/Mrs K Bennett

**What will I study?**

You will study a course with units covering the following areas of sports knowledge:

- Components of fitness and methods of training
- Injuries
- Nutrition
- Practical performance

You will be given opportunities to explore the principles of health and fitness. You will understand the main components of fitness and the principles of training. They will look at the benefits and the effects of exercise on the body's system. Develop your knowledge and understanding of how food and physical activity can contribute to a healthy lifestyle. You will learn the importance of diet and nutrition. You will understand how motivation affects participation in physical activity. Use your knowledge and skills in carrying out fitness tests. You will need to demonstrate you understand the importance of preparation and appropriate warm up and cool downs. You will be able to evaluate the effectiveness of a health and fitness programmes through practical performance. You will also focus on sport leaders and sport in the media.

**How will I be assessed?**

You will be assessed in 4 Mandatory units. These units will consist of both internal and external assessments. One unit will be externally assessed by the exam board. Three units will be coursework based units assessed internally.

**Pathways and where this can take you:**

With this qualification you will be able to go on in to the following:

- Level 3/A Level courses
- Apprenticeships
- Employment
- Teaching
- Coaching
- Leisure based work
- Fitness instructing